

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 66, 67, 70 and 74-75.

Please cancel claim 73 without prejudice.

1. - 65. (Previously Cancelled)

66. (Currently Amended) A modified annexin ~~suitable for direct radiolabeling~~ which is direct radiolabeled with a metal radionuclide, comprising ~~an~~ a metal radionuclide complexed directly to a modified annexin, wherein the annexin is modified to ~~provide an~~ ~~accessible~~ add a sulfhydryl group which is capable of participating participates in the complexation of ~~a~~ the metal radionuclide.

67. (Currently Amended) The modified annexin of claim 66, wherein the modification of the annexin comprises an amino acid extension at the N-terminus, said amino acid extension comprising the ~~accessible~~ added sulfhydryl group.

68. (Previously Added) The modified annexin of claim 67, wherein the sulfhydryl group is within ten amino acids from the N-terminus.

69. (Previously Added) The modified annexin of claim 67, wherein the amino acid extension further comprises glycine.

70. (Currently Amended) The modified annexin of claim 67, wherein the ~~accessible~~ added sulfhydryl group is provided by cysteine.

71. (Previously Added) The modified annexin of claim 70, wherein the amino acid extension further comprises glycine.

72. (Previously Added) The modified annexin of claim 67, wherein the annexin is annexin V.

73. (Cancelled)

74. (Currently Amended) The modified annexin of ~~claim 73~~ any one of claims 66-72, wherein the radionuclide is a diagnostic radionuclide.

75. (Currently Amended) The modified annexin of ~~claim 73~~ any one of claims 66-72, wherein the radionuclide is ~~F-18~~, Cu-64, Cu-67, Re-186, Re-188, Pd-100, Pd-109, Bi-212, Pb-212, Ga-67, Ga-68, Tc-99m, Tc-94, Ru-95, Ru-105, Rh-99, Rh-105, In-111, ~~I-123, I-125~~, Sm-153, Lu-177, Lu-170, Pt-189, Pt-193, Au-199 or Hg-197.

76. (Previously Added) The modified annexin of claim 75, wherein the radionuclide is Cu-64, Cu-67, Re-186, Re-188, Pd-100, Pd-109, Bi-212, Pb-212, Ga-67, Ga-68, Tc-99m, Tc-94, Ru-95, Ru-105, Rh-99, Rh-105 or In-111.

77. (Previously Added) The modified annexin of claim 76, wherein the radionuclide is Tc-99m.